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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1 and 16 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A time-resolved fluoroimmunoassay (TR-FIA) method for detecting a cytokine in a biological fluid sample, comprising:

forming a composite ~~in which~~ by (a) binding a first antibody, including a portion bound to a solid phase and a region bindable to a cytokine, to a solid phase; (b) adding the sample containing the cytokine; (c) binding a second antibody, including a region bindable to the cytokine and a portion to which biotin is bound, to the cytokine; (d) a conjugate including streptoavidin or avidin and a fluorescent structural portion capable of being complexed with a lanthanoid metal ion; and (e) the lanthanoid metal ion are bound, the composite being formed on the solid phase; and

measuring fluorescence of the fluorescent structural portion which has been complexed with the lanthanoid metal ion,

wherein the method comprises a step of washing after each of steps (a) to (c); and

wherein the cytokine is a cytokine belonging to the chemokine family, and

wherein the fluorescent structural portion is represented by General Formula (I):

$$R\text{-}Ar\text{-}C(=O)\text{-}CH_2\text{-}C(=O)\text{-}C_nF_{2n}\text{-}X \qquad (I)$$

(where R is a residue which is a functional group capable of forming a covalent bond with a protein; Ar is a hydrocarbon group having a conjugated double bond system; n is an integer equal to or greater than 1; and X is a fluorine atom or a group represented by General Formula (II):

$$-C(=O)\text{-}CH_2\text{-}C(=O)\text{-}Ar\text{-}R[[\text{-}]] \qquad (II).$$

2. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the lanthanoid 1 metal ion is europium.

3. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the fluorescent structural portion is represented by General Formula (III):